

asculum

The North Country Quarterly of Science and Local History.

Edited by the REV. J. E. HULL, M.A., Belford Vicarage, Northumberland.

Assisted by

R. S. BAGNALL, D.Sc., F.R.S.E. | E. ERNEST GREEN.

MISS K. B. BLACKBURN, D.Sc.

GEORGE BOLAM.

WILLIAM CARTER.

F. C. GARRETT, D.Sc.

J. W. H. HARRISON, D.Sc., F.R.S.

W. RAW.

J. A. SMYTHE, D.Sc.

H. S. WALLACE.

Secretary and Treasurer:

WILLIAM CARTER,

13, Kimberley Gardens, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Volume XVI., 1930.

Annual Subscription, 5/- Post Free.

HEWIT SON

TRISTRAM

Notice: This material may be protected by copyright law (Title 17 U.S. Code).

any other ecologic conditions," in short that the "common parasitic species has persisted unchanged from a common ancester of the now divergent but allied host kinds."

We find that no Anopluran has been found on Marsupials (Kangeroos and their kind) which would suggest that the bloodsucking lice are of a more recent origin than Marsupials or than the biting lice.

We find that the elephant louse is common to the Indian and African elephants: that the horse bloodsucking louse is also found on the donkey and Burchell's zebra: that an Anopluran is common to the American bison, the zebu and the Indian buffalo: the biting louse of our domestic cat is also found on the lynx, whilst that of the dog is common to the wolf of Europe and Asia, and the raccoon-like wild dog (Nyctereutes procyonoides) of Asia and Japan. And again these are but a few instances.

Even the lice of man have their nearest relatives (belonging to the genus *Pediculus*) in those infesting the higher apes or simians, which, by blood-tests, hair comparison, and parasites, are demonstrated to be phyletically much nearer man than to the monkeys proper.

With this comforting thought let us rest awhile in all humility.

RECORDS OF SOME BIRD-LICE (MALLOPHAGA)—II.1

RICHARD S. BAGNALL and WILLIAM HALL.

Part I. of this paper appeared in the Journal of Economic Biology, February, 1912 (vol. vii., pp. 5-9, figs.), wherein we stated that we were gathering material for an account of the Insect Ecto-parasites of mammals and birds, both wild

¹ This was written in the early part of 1912 and in view of the time that has since elapsed I have thought it advisable to reproduce the introduction to Part I., with slight modifications. Some of those brought forward as new to the British Fauna in the present contribution have no doubt been met with and recorded by others in the interim.—R. S. B.

and domestic, of the North of England, paying special attention to the Siphonaptera (Fleas), Anoplura (Bloodsucking lice) and Mallophaga (Biting Lice), but not neglecting the smaller groups, such as the dipterous family Hippoboscidæ.

In view of the years that must elapse before we can feel justified in publishing our list of Mallophaga, these Records are designed to give short notes on certain rare species, especially those which so far as we know have not been previously recognised in this country.

In our first contribution, we were able to bring forward for the first time as British, Docophorus acutipectus K., D. cordiceps P., Nirmus lineolatus N., N. punctatus N., N. dispar P., Oncophorus minutus N., Goniocotes chrysocephalus Gieb., Lipeuris anseris Gurlt, L. longicornis P., Menopon biseriatum P., M. brevipalpe P., M. phæostomum N., and Colpocephalum bicolor P., of which D. acutipectus and N. dispar were perhaps the most interesting and certainly the most unexpected captures.

In the present contribution the following species are apparently new to the British Fauna, of which Kellogg's species from the Fulmar and Little Auk are additions to the European Fauna:—

Docophorus occidentalis K., N. maritimus K., N. intermedius N., N. densilimbus N., Goniocotes microthorax N., Goniodes damicornis N., Lipeurus varius K., L. helvolus N., L. cinereus N., L. heterographus N., Colpocephalum subpachygaster P., Physostomum irascens N., P. nitidissimum N., Nitzschia tibialis P., Menopon numerosum K. (or brevifimbriatum P.), M. circulare N., M. flavescens P., M. eurysternum N., and M. pustulosum N.

We would again express our thanks to Professor Kellogg, who has identified or confirmed our identification of specimens submitted to him, and throughout our notes we have affixed "teste Kellogg" in brackets after the names of all species he has examined for us, the new British forms being marked by an asterisk.

TAWNY OWL (Strix aluco). Lambton Park, Co. Durham.

*Colpochephalum subpachygaster, Piaget (teste Kellogg). 1880. Les Pédiculines, p. 517, pl. 43, f. 2.

Closely related to pachygaster Giebel (to which species Piaget refers Denny's C. haliati found on the Osprey in Northumberland by Prideaux Selby and in Norfolk). Several examples.

MAGPIE (Pica caudata). Fatfield.

*Menopon eurysternum N. (teste Kellogg).

1874. Giebel, Ins. Ep., p. 283, pl. xv, f. 4;

1880. Piaget, Les Pédiculines, p. 434, pl. xlii, f. 3.

Kellogg identifies this species as eurysternum, which is recorded from Pica melanoleuca and P. leucoptera abroad. Both M. picæ and this species are figured by Piaget.

STARLING (Sturnus vulgaris).

Docophorus leontodon Nitzsch.

From several birds, sometimes in numbers. This and the three following species have been taken from starlings shot at both Fatfield and Gibside.

Nirmus nebulosus Denny.

From several birds.

*Menopon circulare Nitzsch.

Giebel, Insecta Epizoa, p. 284, pl. xv, f. 5. 1874.

This species was not recognised by Piaget. It is one of our most strongly characterised species, and easily distinguished by the strange prolongation of the first abdominal segment. We have taken several specimens.

* Menopon flavescens Piaget.

Piaget, Les Pédiculines, 1880, p. 440, pl. xxxv, f. 9.

This species, beautifully figured by Piaget, was originally described by him from a foreign species of Starling, Sturnus (Acridotheres) cristatellus, but has more recently been taken in Italy from the common Starling. We have taken several specimens.

CHAFFINCH (Fringilla cælebs). Co. Durham.

*Nirmus densilimbus Nitzsch 1874.

In Giebel, Ins. Epizoa, p. 138.

This and the following records illustrate how even the commonest birds will yield additions to our fauna. Previously recorded from the Goldfinch and Bullfinch.

*Physostomun irascens Nitzsch.

In Giebel, l.c., p. 257, pl. 18, f. 1.

Recorded from both Fringilla cœlebs and F. serinus. Under his description of P. mystax from Turdus spp., Denny records with some doubt examples from the Chaffinch (which are most likely of this species) and from the lesser Spotted Woodpecker. In his description of the Waxwing species Denny also states that he had found species of Physostomun from the Snow Bunting and Blue Titmouse.

YELLOWHAMMER (Emberiza citrinella). Fatfield, Co. Durham. *Physostomum nitidissimum Nitzsch. 1874.

In Giebel, Ins. Epizoa, p. 255.

Peculiar to the Yellowhammer.

BLACKBIRD (Turdus merula). Northumberland Durham.

*Nirmus intermedius Nitzsch, 1874 (teste Kellogg).

In Giebel, Ins. Epizoa, p. 142, pl. 6, f. 8.

Occasionally; we have also found N. marginalis on this host. Previously recorded from the Ring Ouzel (T. torquatus). Piaget regards Denny's viscivori, iliaci, and merulensis as varieties of N. marginalis.

Physostomum mystar Nitzsch.

Occasionally on the Blackbird.

COMMON SWIFT (Cypselus apus). (a) Fatfield, Co. Durham.

*Nitzschia tibialis Piaget (teste Kellogg).

Piaget, Les Pédiculines, 1880, p. 576, pl. xlviii, f. 5.

The identification of our two specimens (both apparently referable to the female) with the Nitzschia tibialis of Piaget has been confirmed by Kellogg. Piaget described the species from females (taken on the Swift) in the collection of the Leyden Museum, and the male appears to be unknown.

The species is easily distinguished from the better known Nitzschia pulicaria N. (burmeisteri Denny) by several good characters, and both species are excellently figured by Piaget.

(b) Hollinside, Co. Durham.

Nitzschia pulicaria Nitzsch.

Eureum cimicoides Nitzsch.

Both species, but only a single example of the latter, which is very suitably named.

PARTRIDGE (Perdix ciperea). Gibside, Co. Durham.

*Goniocotes microthorax Nitzsch, 1874.

*Lipeurus cinereus Nitzsch, 1874.

In Giebel, Ins. Epizoa, p. 184 and p. 221.

FOWL (Gallus domesticus). Penshaw, Co. Durham.

*Lipeurus heterographus Nitzsch, 1874.

In Giebel, Ins. Epizoa, p. 218. Once only.

Pigeon (Columba domestica). Fatfield, Co. Durham.

*Goniodes damicornis Nitzsch, 1874.

In Giebel, Ins. Epizoa, p. 197.

Woodcock (Scolopax rusticola). Gibside, Co. Durham. *Lipeurus helveolus Nitzsch. 1874.

In Giebel, Ins. Epizoa, p. 229, pl. 16, f. 10 and 11.

A single example from the Woodcock, apparently referable to this species, was broken beyond repair in post to Kellogg.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE (Podiceps cristatus). Blaydon, Co. Durham.

Nirmus fuscomarginatus Denny.

*Menopon sp. (not tridens).

Piaget regards Denny's Nirmus podicepis to be the male of fuscomarginatus, which latter is described from the Eared Grebe.

Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis). Northumberland. (Hugh Charlton.)

*Lipeurus rarius Kellogg, 1896, p. 116.

*Docophorus occidentalis Kellogg, 1896, p. 89 (teste Kellogg).

*Menopon numerosum Kellogg, 1896, p. 159 (or *M. brevifimbriatum Piaget).

In New Mallophaga I., Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci., VI.,

pp. 31-168, pl. ii-xv.

These records further illustrate the interest of the lice fauna of our maritime birds, Kellogg's species having been originally described from Californian varieties of the Fulmar. As regards the *Menopon*, Kellogg reports that our examples are referable either to numerosum or brevifimbriatum.

GANNET (Sula bassana). Northumberland. (Hugh Charlton.)

*Menopon pustulosum Nitzsch.

Several examples with *Docophorus lari*, *D. bassanæ*, and *Lipeurus pullatus* (=staphylinus). Piaget suggests that Denny's *M. nigropleurum* may possibly be referable to this species.

LITTLE AUK (Mergulus alle). Northumberland and Durham.

Docophorus merguli Denny.

On every bird examined.

*Nirmus maritimus Kellogg and Chapman, 1899.

In New Mallophaga III., Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci., VI., p. 72, pl. vi, f. 1.

Unfortunately the examples that were sent to Kellogg (together with a *Menopon sp.) for his opinion were destroyed in the post. The former was previously found on species of the Ancient Murrelet (Synthliboramphus), Cassin's Auklet (Ptychoramphus), and the Rhinoceros Auklet (Ceratorhinea) from California.

SYNONYMY.

Lipeurus kelloggi, Bagnall and Hall, nom. nov., for L. quadripustulatus, Piaget, Tijdschr. v. Ent., vol. 31, p. 156, pl. 3, f. 9 (1888).

Kellogg, Mallophaga in Genera Insectorum, p. 44, 1908, nec Nitzsch in Giebel, Ins. Epizoa, 1874 (above cited). From Hydrornis maxima.

Lipeurus quadripustulatus, Nitzsch, 1874, from various Eagles and Vultures.